United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott Eastern District of California

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FATHER AND SON MARIJUANA GROWERS IN NATIONAL FOREST SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that United States District Judge Lawrence K. Karlton yesterday sentenced JOSE MAGANA to 10 years and his father JOSE MIRANDA to four years and nine months for the manufacturing of marijuana in the Six Rivers National Forest in July 2007.

This case is the product of an investigation by the U.S. Forest Service, Trinity County Sheriff's Department, and the California Department of Fish and Game.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Jill M. Thomas, who prosecuted the case, MAGANA and MIRANDA were arrested on July 4, 2007 when officers entered the marijuana garden located near Zenia, Calif. and found the two defendants working in the marijuana garden armed with rifles. MAGANA told investigators that they had been living in the National Forest and growing their marijuana there since May 2007. Located on the National Forest approximately a quarter mile off a county road in Trinity County, the garden contained a camp and kitchen area stocked with large amounts of food and supplies. Found nearby were large amounts of garbage discarded in the National Forest.

MAGANA and MIRANDA were charged with the manufacturing of over 7,000 marijuana plants and possession with intent to distribute marijuana.

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